Docket No. 98035-01 Serial No. 09/317,409

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

(pplicant(s): Lucas, et al

Serial No.: 09/317,409

Filed: May 24, 1999

For: Products and Methods of

Core Crush Prevention

Group Art Unit: 1771

Examiner: Befumo, Jenna Leigh

**Amendment in Response to Final** 

Office Action and RCE

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## **INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Sir:

This correspondence is in response to the Final Office Action mailed December 28, 2004, regarding the above-entitled application for which the time to respond is through March 28, 2005.

Filed herewith is a Request for Continued Examination.

Reconsideration of this application is requested.

Please amend the application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.